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December 1, 1999

Donna Shalala, Secretary U.S. Department of Health & Human Services 200 Independence Ave., S.W. Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Secretary Shalala:

I understand there is a possibility that labeling of irradiated food will no longer be required. I know all the arguments... that it is perfectly safe, keeps longer, etc. but I agree with those who feel that the process is in some way changing our food (along with genetically engineering foreign organisms into what we eat.. but that is another subject). and I feel strongly that we consumers should at least be able to choose whether or not we want to take part in these "brave new world" food manipulations.

I urge your support in maintaining mechanisms for giving us the information we need in deciding what to put into our bodies.

Sincerely,

Elaine Weinheimer

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Donna Shalala, Secretary

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

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